



Bobby Frankel

Born: July 9, 1941 in Brooklyn, N.Y.

Resident: Pacific Palisades, Calif.

Family: Bonita Boniface (wife), Bethenny (daughter from a previous marriage).

Bobby Frankel's record at Keeneland

Total wins: 32

Stakes Wins (17)

- Inducted into the Racing Hall of Fame in 1995.
- Five-time Eclipse Award-winning trainer (1993, 2000-2003).
- Four times the nation's leading money-winning trainer (1993, 2001-2003).
- Has trained nine champions—Leroidesanimaux (Brz) and Intercontinental (GB) (2005 grass male and female, respectively); Ghostzapper (2004 Horse of the Year and champion older male), Aldebaran and Squirtle Squirt (sprinters), Bertrando (older horse) and Wandesta (GB), Possibly Perfect and Ryafan (all female turf).
- Won his 3,000th race on Jan. 10, 2004, with Megahertz (GB) in the San Gorgonio Handicap (G2), which also gave him his 100th stakes victory at Santa Anita.
- Broke Aidan O'Brien's record for Grade/Group 1 victories in a year when his stable won 24 in 2003.
- Broke D. Wayne Lukas's record for single-season earnings set in 1988 when his stable earned \$19,143,289 in 2003.
- Won the 2003 Belmont with Empire Maker.
- Has won four Breeders' Cup races—the 2001 Sprint, Squirtle Squirt; 2002 Filly & Mare Turf, Starine (Fr); 2004 Classic, Ghostzapper; and 2005 Filly & Mare Turf, Intercontinental.
- All-time leading trainer at Hollywood Park.

Although Bobby Frankel's streak of Eclipse Award-winning seasons ended in 2004, he achieved a first in his illustrious career that year—training a Horse of the Year in Ghostzapper, unbeaten in four starts including the Breeders' Cup Classic. Frankel also had Eclipse finalists Intercontinental and Sightseek in his barn and was an Eclipse finalist himself for outstanding trainer.

His other Grade 1 winners in 2004 were Medaglia d'Oro (Donn Handicap), Peace Rules (Suburban Handicap), Midas Eyes (Forego Handicap), Nothing to Lose (Shadwell Turf Mile) and Leroidesanimaux (Citation Handicap). His stable won 135 races and earned \$15,605,911. And he scored the 3,000th victory of his career in January when Megahertz won the San Gorgonio.

In 2005, Frankel had Eclipse winners Intercontinental and Leroidesanimaux in his shedrow, bringing his total of champions to nine. For the second year in a row, he ranked second by earnings with \$14.1 million. In addition to Intercontinental's victory in the Filly & Mare Turf, which gave him his fourth Breeders' Cup victory, other Grade 1 highlights came with Leroidesanimaux (Frank E. Kilroe Mile), Ghostzapper (Metropolitan), Saint Liam (Stephen Foster), King's Drama (Ire) (Sword Dancer Invitational), Mass Media (Forego), Megahertz (Yellow Ribbon) and I'm the Tiger (Frank J. De Francis Memorial Dash).

Last year, he ranked third with earnings of nearly \$9.8 million. Grade 1 victories came courtesy of Cacique (Ire), Latent Heat and Price Tag (GB) and other graded wins

with Karen's Caper, Precious Kitten, Amorama (Fr), King's Drama, Badge of Silver, High Limit and Seafree, among others.

In 2003, Frankel broke D. Wayne Lukas's longstanding record for earnings in a single season as well as Aidan O'Brien's record for number of Grade/Group 1 victories in a year (both were broken by Todd Pletcher last year). The Eclipse Award winner for leading trainer himself, he also conditioned Eclipse-winning sprinter Aldebaran, along with four Eclipse finalists—Empire Maker, Heat Haze (GB), Medaglia d'Oro and Sightseek. His primary client, Prince Khalid Abdullah's Juddmonte Farms, won Eclipse Awards for leading breeder and owner.

It was an amazing year for the native of Brooklyn, New York, who married Bonita Boniface prior to the Breeders' Cup. Frankel saddled the winners of 114 races and the earners of a staggering \$19,143,289. His horses won at an impressive 28 percent clip.

Lukas's previous record of \$17,842,358 had been set in 1988 when he won three Breeders' Cup races. Frankel had nearly surpassed Lukas in 2002, but fell just short with stable earnings of \$17,748,340.

Frankel's 24 Grade 1 wins in 2003 broke O'Brien's previous record by one victory. They included his first victory in a Triple Crown race—the Belmont Stakes with Juddmonte's homebred Empire Maker—plus the Santa Anita Handicap (Milwaukee Brew), Toyota Blue Grass (Peace Rules), Metropolitan Handicap (Aldebaran), the Coaching Club American Oaks (Spoken Fur), the Whitney (Medaglia d'Oro), the Beverly D (Heat Haze),

the Ruffian (Wild Spirit [Chi]), the Vosburgh (Ghostzapper) and the Beldame (Sightseek).

From 2001-2003, Frankel reigned as North America's leading money-winning trainer, and he won the Eclipse Award for four consecutive years, 2000-2003. He was also the leading money-winning trainer in 1993 when he was rewarded with his first Eclipse as leading trainer.

Frankel began as a hotwalker at Belmont Park and Aqueduct in New York before taking out a trainer's license and saddling Double Dash as his first winner at Aqueduct on Nov. 29, 1966. Early on, he made a name for himself with claiming horses, developing Baitman, Pataha Prince, Barometer and Lakeside Trail into stakes winners. He relocated to Southern California in 1972 and won a record 60 races at Hollywood Park.

With new clients Edmond Gann, Bert Firestone, Jerry Moss and Stavros Niarchos, he began upgrading the quality of his stable in the 1980s, but it would be the addition of Juddmonte Farms as a client in 1990 that would bump up the quality still higher.

He has been leading trainer at Hollywood Park, Santa Anita, Del Mar, Saratoga and Oak Tree. In 2003, he passed Charlie Whittingham as the all-time leading trainer at Hollywood Park with his 860th victory, which came in the Hollywood Turf Cup (G1), also giving him his record 24th Grade 1 win of the year. Oddly enough, Epicentre, the actual winner, was disqualified and runner-up Continuously moved up to first. Both were trained by Frankel.

Earlier Eclipse Award winners were 1993 champion older male Bertrando; 1995 turf female Possibly Perfect; 1996 turf female Wandesta; 1997 turf female Ryafan; and 2001 sprinter Squirtle Squirt. (He shared the training of Ryafan in '97 with John Gosden.)

He broke a long drought in the Breeders' Cup with his initial score in the 2001 Sprint with Squirtle Squirt and then added a second win the following year with Starine in the Filly & Mare Turf, a mare he owned.

Other noteworthy accomplishments include winning the Arlington Million twice (Chester House, 2000, and Beat Hollow, 2002), and the Pacific Classic five times (Bertrando, 1993, Tinnors Way, 1994-1995 and Skimming, 2000-2001). In a very unusual feat, he won two Grade 1 races by disqualification on July 1, 2001, when Senure was placed first in the United Nations Handicap and Aptitude was promoted to first in the Hollywood Gold Cup.

Frankel was elected to the Racing Hall of Fame in 1995. Through 2006, Frankel had won 3,395 races and earned more than \$197.5 million. From 1976 through Jan. 9, 2007, Equineline.com credited him with 305 stakes winners.